(iii) Branch Small Industries Service Institute, Plot No. 76, CGE Colony Tiruchendue Road, Tuticorin—628003.

The existing three institutes in Tamil Nadu are catering to the needs of Small Scale Industries in the State of Tamil Nadu including SSI units located in Hosur.

Financial condition of SSIs

†1017. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any concrete steps to improve the financial condition of Small Scale Industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures likely to be taken by Government to promote Small Scale Industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have taken several steps to improve the financial condition of the Small Scale Industries (SSIs) through implementation of various programmes/ schemes like Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme etc. In addition, the initiatives which have been taken to improve the flow of credit to the SSI units include enhancement of composite loan limit from Rs. 25 lakh to Rs. 50 lakh, advice to banks to adopt interest rate band of 2% above and below prime lending rates, providing collateral free loan upto Rs. 25 lakh to SSI units having good track record setting up of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Fund of Rs. 10,000 crore under SIDBI, enhancement of loan limit under Laghu Udyami Credit Card (LUCC) from Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh, etc.

(c) The promotion and development of the Small Scale Industries (SSIs) is a conscious policy of the Government. While the development of SSIs is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments, the Central Government has taken several steps to improve their performance by implementing various schemes for improving the flow of credit, infrastructure development, technology upgradation, marketing and enterpreneurial development etc.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.